

## REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-NOVEMBER 22, 2004

The regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council was called to order by Mayor Elizabeth Paterson at 7:34 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair(arrived at 7:40 p.m.)Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Redding, Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to approve the minutes of November 8, 2004 as corrected.

So passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

None

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

## 1. Code Enforcement Relocation Plan

No comments from the public

V. OLD BUSINESS

## 2. Code Enforcement Relocation Plan

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded that effective November 22, 2004, to adopt the revised Code Enforcement Relocation Plan, dated November 22, 2004.

So passed unanimously.

## 3. Request from Cambridge Massachusetts re: Casualties from the War in Iraq

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to remove this item from the table.

At the November 22, 2004 regular meeting of the Town Council, under Old Business Item #3, when the earlier motion was taken off the table, the maker called for any council member who would like to offer a substitute motion. Mr. Hawkins proposed the following motion:

That at each meeting of the Mansfield Town Council (the intent was each regular meeting), after the approval of the minutes and before the Opportunity for the Public to Address the Council that the chair call for a moment of silence to observe all U.S.

and allied military personnel killed in Iraq, Afghanistan, or supporting U.S. Military strategy elsewhere.

Seconded by Schaefer

So passed. Ms. Redding abstained and Ms. Koehn voted against.

#### 4. University Spring Weekend and Campus/Community Relations

Mr. Hart, Assistant Town Manager, reported that the staff has received comments from the Council committee members and will be putting together a draft report to be given to the entire Council in the very near future.

### VI. OLD BUSINESS

#### 5. Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Mansfield Board of Education and the Mansfield Education Association

The Town Manager handed out the recently signed agreement. He commented that the town board did a fine job of holding down the cost of staff and benefits. The Director of Finance had meetings with the labor attorneys trying to come up with an approach to the negotiations in this area, which over time will bring some consistency to what we are doing. Contract seems fair with the co-pays being increased.

The Council has three options: to ratify the agreement

To reject the agreement

Or Take no action

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to approve the Contract between the MBOE and the MEA as presented.

Ms. Koehn requested a medical cost out vs. the salary cost out.

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to table this until the next meeting.

So passed unanimously.

#### 6. Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2005

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded that effective November 22, 2004, to adopt the Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2005, as presented by the Town Clerk

So passed unanimously.

#### 7. No Freeze Project Hospitality Center

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective November 22, 2004, to authorize staff to appropriate a \$500 donation to the Windham Region No Freeze Project Hospitality Center.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to raise it to \$750.00.

Amendment so passed unanimously.

Motion to appropriate a \$750.00 donation to the Windham Region No Freeze Project Hospitality Center.

So passed unanimously.

#### 8. Proclamation in Honor of Student "Get Out the Vote" Efforts

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective November 22, 2004, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation in Honor of Student Voter Registration Efforts.

The Mayor requested that a copy of this letter be given to the Chronicle, and to the Daily Campus and a copy to each of the chair of organizations listed on top. It is also placed on our website. A thank you also to AAUP and

So passed unanimously.

#### 9. Status Report on Pending Claims and Litigation

Mr. Hawkins thanked the staff for providing this update. He found it very helpful.

#### 10. Non-native Invasive Plant and Animal Species in Mansfield

This is a status report on non-native Invasive Plant and Animal Species in Mansfield. This report will be placed on the Town's website. There will be also other links to State departments, which may have information on invasive plants.

#### 11. Flexible Benefits Plan for Employees

Mr. Clouette moved and Ms. Blair seconded that effective November 22, 2004, to approve the attached resolutions regarding the amended and restated Town of Mansfield Flexible Benefits Plan.

So passed unanimously.

#### 12. Financial Statements Dated September 30, 2004

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Blair seconded that effective November 22, 2004, to refer the Financial Statement Dated September 30, 2004 to the Finance Committee for review.

So passed unanimously.

### VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

### VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Haddad received a letter from the Housing Authority that the Authority has removed the tenant member Grace Hunderlach.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that:

The Council requests that the Town Attorney review the Authority's by-laws, our Town Charter and Ordinances and the Connecticut General Statutes and to offer an opinion about the correct procedure and criteria for removing from office a Commissioner of the Housing Authority.

Further to request that the Housing Authority provide additional information regarding Ms. Hunderlach's removal, including the procedure used, the reasons for the removal and the applicability of sec. 8-43 of the CGS.

Mr. Clouette added the following amendment: That we consider that Grace Hunderlach continue to be a member until the Town Attorney offers an opinion.

So passed unanimously.

-

### IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Mayor made the following appointments effective December 1, 2004.

#### Finance Committee

Carl Schaefer, Chair  
Bruce Clouette  
Alison Blair

#### Committee on Committees

Bruce Clouette, Chair  
Alan Hawkins  
Caroline Redding

#### Personnel

Gregory Haddad, Chair  
Helen Koehn  
Chris Paulhus

The Mayor is ex-officio on all committees

Mr. Chris Paulhus announced that he and Ms. Alison Blair had been on the Council for one year. He also attended the Downtown Partnership meeting.

Mr. Paulhus, Ms. Koehn, and the Mayor attended the Veterans Day Celebration at the Senior Center.

Ms. Koehn attended with the League of Women Voters a workshop on sustainable development.

#### IX. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

DEP called today, they have officially accepted the landfill closure plan.

The University of Connecticut has received 4 million dollars earmarked for the Hillside Road extension.

On November 10, 2004 the Downtown Partnership made a presentation. Over 150 persons attended. Had good press, the NY Times had an article.

There was the first meeting of the Campus Community Partnership last Monday night. The Mayor is co-chair. The committee reviewed the University President's report and will try to formulate guidelines and objectives, which will make a difference in this community. The committee will meet next week. There are representatives from the High School Community, University of Connecticut, and town community on this committee.

Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager traveled to West Springfield to meet with the management of the Carriage House apartments. The meeting was well received. Both parties discussed many issues. The management company said they were willing to work with the Town to solve the party issue.

Leland Associates will be making a presentation to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Town Council on Dec. 13, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Then have the regular Town Council meeting.

On December 20, 2004 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. there will be a special meeting of the Council to discuss town projects and strategic planning. Light dinner will be served

The Mayor will make available to the council the survey, which was sent to other towns across the country.

#### X. FUTURE AGENDAS

Ms. Koehn would like to have the item "Sustainable Committee" be brought up.

#### XI. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICAIONS

13. The Daily Campus-"UConn takes step toward environmentally friendly campus"

14. Connecticut Civil Liberties union re: Town of Mansfield Political Sign Regulation

15. Town of Tolland re: Probate Court Administrator to Speak at Tolland Town Council Meeting

## XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to have a short break and then go into Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. on a personnel issue with the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager.

So passed unanimously.

At 9:23 p.m. Council went into executive session

At 9:50 p.m. the Council went back into the regular meeting.

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to off the Town Manager a raise in salary of 3.5% and an additional contribution to his retirement of \$5,000 effective 7-1-04

Mr. Hawkins moved to table until the next town council meeting on 12/13/04  
Approved by consensus.

## XIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:57 p.m. Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Redding seconded to adjourn the meeting.

So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk